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LETTER DATED 7 AUGUST 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the observations and comments of the Iraqi side concerning the report on the third International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on-site inspection in Iraq, issued as Security Council document S/22837.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of this letter and its annex circulated among the parties having an interest in the aforementioned Security Council document.

(Signed) Abdul Amir A. AL-ANBARI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

[Original: English]

Comments on the "Report on the third IAEA on-site inspection in Iraq under Security Council resolution 687 (1991)"

It is important to point out the following facts and comments relevant to the Report on the third IAEA on-site inspection in Iraq under Security Council resolution 687 (1991) document S/22837 of 25 July 1991.

1. SALIENT POINTS

Para 3 The statement "The primary aims were stated to be development of ... nuclear power program".

should read as follows:

"The primary aims were stated to be to participate in the development of the country's scientific and technological infrastructure ..... nuclear power program".

Para 6 The statement "A layer of concrete which had ..... indeed been constructed for enrichment purposes".

should read as follows:

A layer of concrete which had been poured over a key component of the separators and the Iraqi side pointed it out as proof of the number of separators installed. The team then requested its removal and was able to confirm that the installation in question had indeed been constructed for enrichment purposes and only eight separators had been installed and operated in the first line whilst another 17 were in the process of being installed in the second line and were never operated.

Para 8 The statement "on the basis of the design data ..... more uranium of a lower enrichment"

should be amended to the following:

the design data presented by the Iraqi side showed that the average monthly throughput of each 1,200 mm separator would have been 2.0 kg of uranium. Assuming the feed material is the tetrachloride of natural uranium, then approximately 14.5 gm of 235U would be transported to the light receiver pocket per month. This mass would be contained within 121 gm of product uranium if the design enrichment of 12% is achieved. The separator hall could accommodate up to a maximum of 70 x 1,200 mm separators in two lines (each line

could accommodate a maximum of 35 units). If all of these separators were installed and working up to the design specifications, they would have produced 102 kg of uranium enriched to 12% per year (this product would contain 12.2 kg of the isotope 235U).

Para 9 The statement "the facility at Ash-Sharqat had ..... completed, no separators had yet been installed."

should be amended to read as follows:

The facility at Ash-Sharqat had been originally intended as an alternate site to Tarmiya and since the Tarmiya site was completed first and the separators were installed at Tarmiya the Ash-Sharqat was abandoned as an EMIS site, it was later planned to utilize the site as a factory for the plastic coating of equipment. Most of the ..... no separators had been installed.

2. THE IRAQI ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

Para 4 The statement "Dr. Jafar noted ..... for the development of nuclear weapons."

This statement should be amended to read as follows:

"Dr. Jafar noted that a capability to produce highly enriched uranium could be a possible option after installing both the 1,200 mm and 600 mm separators."

3. URANIUM ENRICHMENT RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AT AL-TUWAITHA

Research, development and testing of EMIS components were carried out in the Physics Building (80).

This should read as follows:

Research, development and testing of EMIS components were carried out in the Physics building (80) and in the first line of eight separator units in Tarmiya.

Please note: The title and contents of Para 7 should be changed accordingly.

Para 11 The statement "An eight separator system consisted of nine magnets had been installed in area A during January and February 1990".

This statement should read:

"An eight ..... in area A between February and September 1990".

Para 12 The statement " ..... This was removed at the team's request".

This statement should read as in the modification suggested in Para 6 of section (1) above "Salient Points".

Para 17 The statement "A second Facility, a replica of Tarmiya" should read "a second facility as an alternate to Tarmiya ..."

Final Note: Throughout the report it was mentioned that the design capacity of Tarmiya is up to 15 kg of highly enriched (93%) Uranium a year.

We would like to point out that the design throughput, if all 70 separators, were installed, 12.2 kg 235U per year, and proportionately higher depending on the actual enrichment produced, so we would suggest that this figure should be corrected throughout the report.